

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY IONEX )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS NORTH, INC. FOR )</b>	<b>PETITION FOR WAIVER</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF ITS INTRASTATE SWITCHED )</b>	
<b>ACCESS TARIFF AND FOR AN EXEMPTION )</b>	<b>TC02-040</b>
<b>FROM DEVELOPING COMPANY SPECIFIC )</b>	
<b>COST-BASED SWITCHED ACCESS RATES )</b>	

On April 18, 2002, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Ionex Communications North, Inc. (Ionex) for approval of its intrastate switched access tariff. Additionally, Ionex requested an exemption from the requirement to develop intrastate switched access rates based on company specific costs and a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates.

On July 23, 2002, the Commission considered Ionex's request for approval of its intrastate switched access tariff, an exemption from establishing switched access rates based on company specific costs, and a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-31-18, 49-31-19, ARSD 20:10:27:11 and ARSD 20:10:27:12. The Commission voted to grant the petition for exemption from developing company specific cost-based switched access rates pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11, grant a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates, and approve Ionex's intrastate switched access tariff. The Commission further ordered that Ionex, within three years of the date of this Order, file a petition to continue the exemption granted in this proceeding or file cost-based rates. The Commission voted to grant the petition for exemption as conditioned herein and approve the tariff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Ionex's petition to be exempt from establishing company specific cost-based switched access rates is granted, its request for a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates is granted, and its intrastate switched access tariff is approved; and it is further

ORDERED, that Ionex shall, within three years of the date of this Order, file a petition to continue the exemption granted in this proceeding or file cost-based intrastate switched access rates.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of August, 2002.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: _____
Date: _____
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

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PAM NELSON, Commissioner

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ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner